PACE
of southwest michigan

Newsletter

Summer 2024

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And More!

Letter from the CEO

Jim Schlaman

Dear PACE family,

I hope you are enjoying the summer weather. We look forward to serving more families in Southwest Michigan as we prepare to open our Niles site. Construction has taken longer than expected, but all good things are worth the wait. The Niles site is in the Riverfront complex, at 60 East Main Street, in downtown Niles. It is a beautiful location close to the path along the river, Riverview Park, and downtown shopping.

The Niles site will have a full-service medical clinic, day center, therapy gym, kitchen, and bathing area, all on one level. PACE families living in south Berrien and Cass Counties will have access to a closer facility, with less time on the PACE buses. We anticipate opening the Niles site in early 2025.

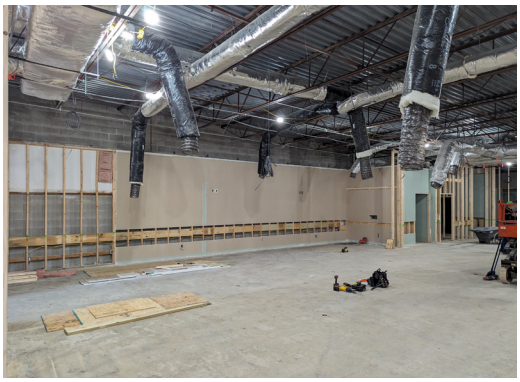
Our new Mission Statement is: "Surrounding seniors with the care you need to remain in the home you love." Every day, our caring, dedicated team strives to achieve this mission. We are blessed to partner with you to achieve your personal and clinical goals. We all desire to live a life full of love and service toward others. Thank you for allowing us to be part of your journey through your senior years.

Kind regards,
Jim

Niles Center Updates

Construction of our Niles Day Center is coming along nicely! Here are some pictures of the progress!

Reception



Main Day Center Area

Quiet Room

Therapy Gym

Shower/Bathing Area

Kitchen

Main Clinic Area

Clinic Exam Rooms

Meeting Room Space

Participant Story Ramon Santana Frey

Ramon Santana Frey was born in Puerto Rico on September 15, 1944. Growing up, Ramon had 11 siblings along with his parents. “I’ve outlived some of my younger siblings,” Ramon says. “I don’t know how that happened!” He came to the mainland United States in 1966 as a young adult to find work. He initially came to Chicago before settling down in Michigan a few years later. Ramon later got married to his late wife Donna, and they had two children together, a son and a daughter, who in turn gave them two grandchildren. As they aged, Donna enrolled in PACE in late 2015. Shortly before Donna passed away, Ramon enrolled in PACE in the fall of 2018. Donna died in February 2019.

Five years later, Ramon still lives in his original home in Niles. He lives alone, but his daughter still helps him with laundry and grocery shopping. Ramon likes to take walks and do work around the house. When he’s at the PACE Day Center, Ramon likes to play games, ride the bike in the therapy gym, and socialize with other participants. After being connected to PACE for almost 9 years through both Donna and himself, Ramon is very positive about the program. “I like everything about PACE,” Ramon says. “They’re good people who treat you nice and give you everything you need.”

Whether it’s at his home, or at the PACE Day Center, Ramon tries to be as helpful and as positive an influence as he can. “I like to help, that’s just the way I am.”

PACE Day At The Capitol

This past May, our participants and staff travelled to Lansing for the annual PACE Day at the Capitol! This event sees all of Michigan's PACE programs come together to advocate to our local lawmakers! Here are some highlights from this year's event!

Meeting Governor Gretchen Whitmer!

Advocating For All PACE Programs Across Michigan!

PACE
This is my story
Cane in 2021
Advanced to Walker in 2022
Thankful for Independence in 2023
Thank you PACE of Southwest Michigan for a successful knee surgery at the University of Michigan!

Participants Share Their PACE Stories!

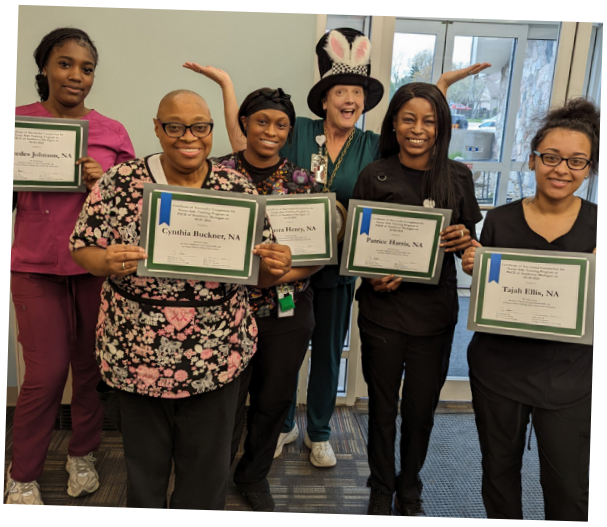
Telling Lawmakers Why PACE Is Important!

PACE Photos

Planting
Summer Flowers!

"Axe" Throwing!

Participant Dwight
Turns 100!



New Nurse Aide
Program Graduates!

New Faces *at* PACE!

Candice Bearden
Home Care LPN

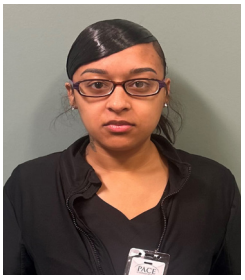
Cynthia Buckner
Day Center Nurse Aide

Kat Depriest
Home Care Nurse Aide

Brittani Evett
IDT Coordinator

Russell Graves
Compliance Officer

Patrice Harris
Day Center Nurse Aide

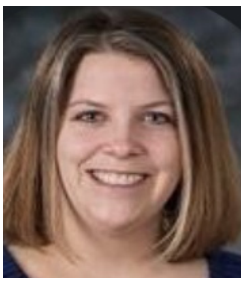


Taj Ellis
Home Care Nurse Aide

Denise Imperial
Registered Dietician

Mercedes Johnson
Day Center Nurse Aide

Sarah Linthicum
Clinic RN



Amy Lovell
Sr. Financial Analyst

Becca Mix
Home Care CNA

Kaitylnn Shepherd
Home Care RN

Lisa Vanderlaan
Rehab Tech

Maria Veloz
Senior Accountant

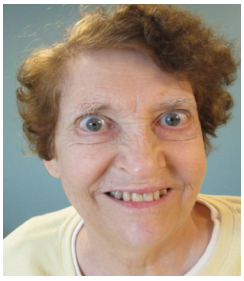
Brittany Watts
HR Manager

Cheers To 10 Years!

Martha Smith
Participant since
September 2012

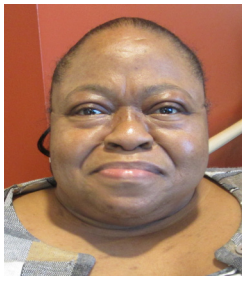
Andreja Plantak
Foot Care Specialist
since February 2013

Loren Perry
Social Work Supervisor
since July 2013



Marilyn Lentz
Participant since
July 2013

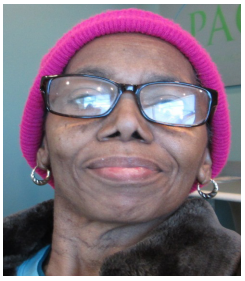
Susan Arent
Participant since
August 2013



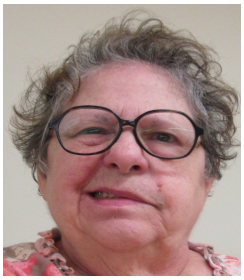
Wanda Allen
Participant since
September 2013

John Jeluso
Participant since
September 2013

Robert Reeves
Participant since
December 2013



Vanessa Elliott
Participant since
February 2014



Joann Burgess
Participant since
February 2014

George Smith
Participant since
February 2014

Johnny Valantiejus
Participant since
May 2014

Wanda Johnson
HCC CNA
since June 2014

PACE
of southwest michigan

2900 Lakeview Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269-408-4322

Scan This Code To Write Us A Google Review!

Mark Your Calendar!

The PACE Day Center will be closed on these upcoming 2024 dates:

Labor Day
Monday, September 2

Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 28

Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 25

Remember, you can always reach PACE 24/7 with our on-call service! 269-408-4322

PACE
of southwest michigan

Our Mission:

Surrounding seniors with the care you need to remain in the home you love

Our Vision:

A world without barriers to successful aging

Participants may be fully and personally responsible for the costs of unauthorized or out-of-PACE program agreement services.

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Graphics: Vecteezy.com